

# The Worship of God

## Vestavia Hills Baptist Church

### August 5, 2018

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*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

#### Preparation for Worship

“Forgiveness is to let go of our hope for a different or better past.”

Richard Rohr

*Please turn off your cell phone and silently prepare for worship.*

#### Chiming of the Hour

Dianne Norton

#### Prelude

“Voluntary on Hymn to Joy”

Michael Burkhardt

Dianne Norton

#### Welcome to Worship

Mike McBrayer

#### Call to Worship

Mike McBrayer

One: Create in us a clean heart, O God. Place within us a new and right spirit.

All: **Do not cast us away from you, O Lord, and do not take your Holy Spirit from us.**

One: Restore to us the joy that your salvation brings. Grant us a willing spirit which will sustain us.

All: **Let us worship God together!**

#### \*Hymn No. 366

“O God Beyond All Praising”

THAXTED, alt.

#### \*Affirmation of Faith

from Ephesians 4 (NIRV)

Nancy Akins

One: I am a prisoner because of the Lord. So I am asking you to live a life worthy of what God chose you for. Don't be proud at all. Be completely gentle. Be patient. Put up with one another in love. The Holy Spirit makes you one in every way. So try your best to remain as one. Let peace keep you together.

All: **There is one body and one Spirit. You were appointed to one hope when you were chosen. There is one Lord, one faith and one baptism. There is one God and Father of all. He is over everything. He is through everything. He is in everything.**

One: But each one of us has received a gift of grace. These gifts are given to us by Christ. So Christ himself gave the gift of the apostles to the church. He gave the prophets and those who preach the good news. And he also gave the pastors and teachers as a gift to the church. He gave all these people so that they might prepare God's people to serve.

All: **Then the body of Christ will be built up. That will continue until we all become one in the faith. We will also become one in the knowledge of God's Son. Then we will be grown up in the faith. We will receive everything that Christ has for us.**

One: We will no longer be babies in the faith. We won't be like ships tossed around by the waves. We won't be blown here and there by every new teaching. We won't be blown around by cleverness and tricks. Certain people use them to hide their evil plans.

All: **Instead, we will speak the truth in love. So we will grow up in every way to become the body of Christ. Christ is the head of the body. He makes the whole body grow and build itself up in love. Under the control of Christ, each part of the body does its work. It supports the other parts. In that way, the body is joined and held together.**

\*No. 705

"Glory Be to the Father"  
GLORIA PATRI

Deacon Testimony

Brandi Brownell

Hebrew Scripture Reading

Isaiah 55:6-9  
(OT p. 531 in the pew Bible)

Adie Carter

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalms Reading

Psalms 51:1-12  
(OT p. 404-405 in the pew Bible)

Don Lingle

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Time of Silent Confession

Response

"The Lord's Prayer"  
Arr. Malotte

Samuel Robertson

\*Hymn No. 386

"Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"  
ST. AGNES

Offertory Prayer

Bob Bradley

Offertory

"Brethren, We Have Met to Worship"  
Arr. Don Hustad

Dianne Norton

\*Presentation of the Offering

"Doxology"  
OLD HUNDREDDTH

*Please rise in body or in spirit to sing as the ushers pass your pew.*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise Him, all creatures here below;**

**Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Kindergartners may go to Room 210 in the Children's Building for Worship Care.*

Pastoral Prayer

Gary Furr

Anthem

“To Love Our God”  
Adapted from Ecclesiastes 1 and 12/Mark Hayes

Sanctuary Choir

Where does the wind come from? Where does it go?  
Blowing north and south, how does it know?

The rain flows gently to the sea, yet the sea is never full.  
How can these things be? How can these things be? How can they be?

Humanity works hard to make a name, toiling in the sun yet nothing gained. We all return to dust  
from whence we came. All is empty, all is vain.

To love our God, the reason we live. To love our God, the highest call  
Nothing satisfies our soul, gives life meaning, makes us whole—  
For this purpose we were made—to love our God!

The reason that we live is to love our God!

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Sermon

“Written on the Stones: Pardon from Sin”  
Isaiah 55:6-9

Gary Furr

\*Hymn No. 493

“Have Thine Own Way, Lord”  
ADELAIDE

\*Benediction

Gary Furr

\*Postlude

“Allegro Maestoso”  
G.F. Handel

Dianne Norton

*The flowers today were prepared by Melissa McMurray.*

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## Notes on Today's Worship

“Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee” was originally penned by Bernard of Clairvaux in the 1100s. The son of a knight, Bernard grew up with wealth, power, and opportunities. Instead of pursuing these things in his adult life, however, Clairvaux abandoned his earthly luxuries and became a monk. In this hymn we can see how devout and sincere Clairvaux was. The text expresses the feeling of joy and bliss that only Christ can provide. The hymn has lasted for centuries and been published in over eight hundred hymnals, enjoying a timelessness not shared by many other hymns.

Theologian Elizabeth Webb says, “The word that Psalm 51 offers to the desperate is the reiteration of the nature of the God to whom we pray: steadfast love and abundant mercy, a God who is eternally ‘for us’ with the endless love of a mother for her child.” Where have you seen God’s steadfast love and abundant mercy?

# Dedication of the Fellowship Hall, Kitchen, and Fireside Room

Welcome and Recognitions

Dennis Anderson

Litany of Dedication

Gary Furr

One: We come this day, O God, to dedicate this space. We have worked together to renovate and refresh it and have given of our means to do it. So today we see the goal of our labors. We thank You, Lord, for giving us the vision to see it and the faith to accomplish it. Above all, we thank you for Your guidance and help.

All: We offer our thanks, O God.

One: We thank you for the gifts of our people that have made it possible, for the planning and physical labor that brought the vision into reality, and for ministries that they represent.

All: We offer our thanks, O God

One: We now take that which we have built and dedicate it to You and to the service of Your kingdom for fellowship, evangelism, discipleship, and spiritual growth in the lives of those who come to this place.

All: We dedicate this space to You, O God. May the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord our Redeemer!

Prayer of Commitment

Gary Furr

Response

“Blest Be the Tie”

DENNIS

1. Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;  
2. Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;  
3. We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear;  
4. When we a - sun - der part, it gives us in - ward pain;

the fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.  
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.

WORDS: John Fawcett, 1782

MUSIC: Johann G. Nägeli, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1845

DENNIS

SM

# What's Next?

## College Lunches

We'll start up providing Sunday lunch for our college students again on September 9. Our students, away from home, love being welcomed into homes to sit around the table and share stories, laugh, and have a great time of fellowship. Will you consider hosting a group of college students this semester, demonstrating hospitality and helping to build intergenerational relationships within our community of faith? Available dates: Sept. 16, 30, Oct. 14,21,28, Nov. 4, 11, 18, Dec. 2, 9. Please [go to the form on the website and sign up!](#)

## Quarterly Business Meeting Wednesday, August 8<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m. – Fellowship Hall

We will have a full slate of reports as well as vote on the church leadership roster for 2018-2019. Copies of the roster are available in the church foyer.

## Update from the Minister to Students Search Committee

Thank you for your prayers and support of the Minister to Students Search Committee. We have currently received 20 resumes from prospective candidates. After reviewing resumes and making initial contacts with candidates, the committee has begun formal interviews and followup with references.

Please continue to pray for our committee, the search process, our students and ministry leaders. Also, please pray for the unnamed individual candidates who are seeking God's leadership to find their next ministry position.

Becky White, Chair  
Minister to Students Search Committee

## Women's Fall Bible Study

The Women's Fall Bible study will be 1 Peter by Jen Wilkin and will begin the week of September 9<sup>th</sup>. There will be four times to choose from. Sunday at 3:30 pm & 5:00 pm, Monday at 9:30 am & Tuesday nights at 6:30 pm.

## Worship Care Teachers for Today

Babies	Billie Lochamy, Jody Poe
Preschool 2	Dan & Gay Caldwell
Preschool 3-4	Melanie Medley, Kim Virciglio
Kindergarten	Brent & Lisa Warren
Preschool Desk	Laura Tadlock
Children's Desk	Mel Crowder

## Dates to Remember

August 6	We Care Meeting
August 8	Prayer Breakfast & Fellowship Supper resume in Fellowship Hall Quarterly Business Meeting
August 10-11	Youth Back to School Retreat
August 12	Promotion Day in Sunday School Backpack Blessing in the Worship Service Deacons Meeting, 5:00 pm
August 15	Music & Missions begin
August 18	Flower Committee Workshop
August 25	Women's Bible Study Kickoff

## Hospitality House

VHBC welcomes Rob, Robin, Emma, and Noah Duncan as our new residents in the Hospitality House. The Duncan's serve as missionaries in Southeast Asia. Their home church is Dawson. Their children will be attending Vestavia schools this year, so please offer them a warm welcome!

## 366 O God Beyond All Praising

*Unison*

1. O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship You to-day  
2. Then hear, O gra-cious Sav-ior, ac-cept the love we bring,

and sing the love a-maz-ing that songs can-not re-pay;  
that we who know Your fa-vor may serve You as our King;

for we can on-ly won-der at ev-ery gift You send,  
and wheth-er our to-mor-rows be filled with good or ill,

at bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end;  
we'll tri-umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless You still:

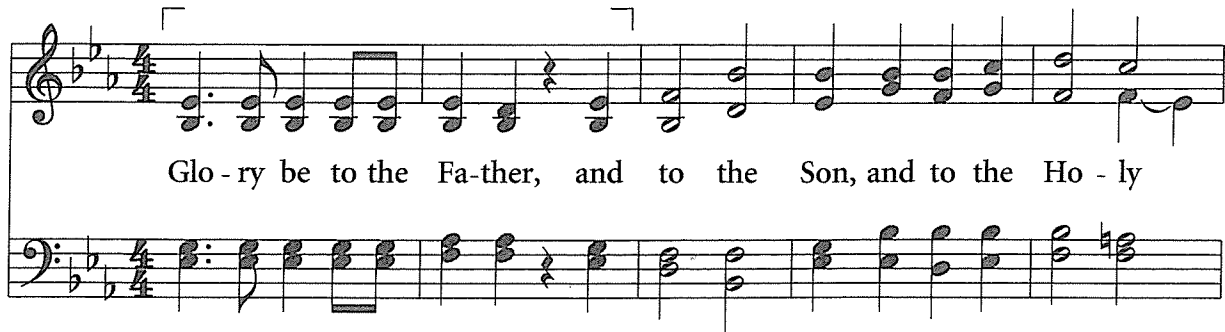
we lift our hearts be-fore You and wait up-on Your Word,  
to mar-vel at Your beau-ty and glo-ry in Your ways,

we hon-or and a-dore You, our great and might-y Lord.  
and make a joy-ful du-ty our sac-ri-fice of praise.

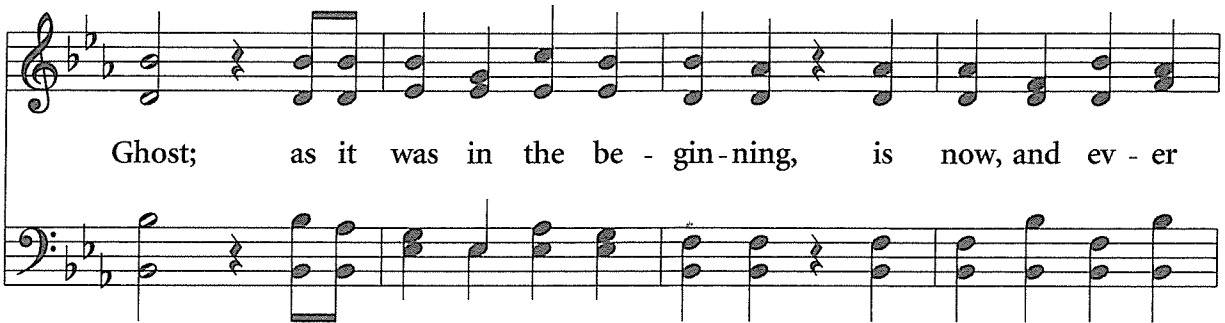
THE CHURCH ON MISSION

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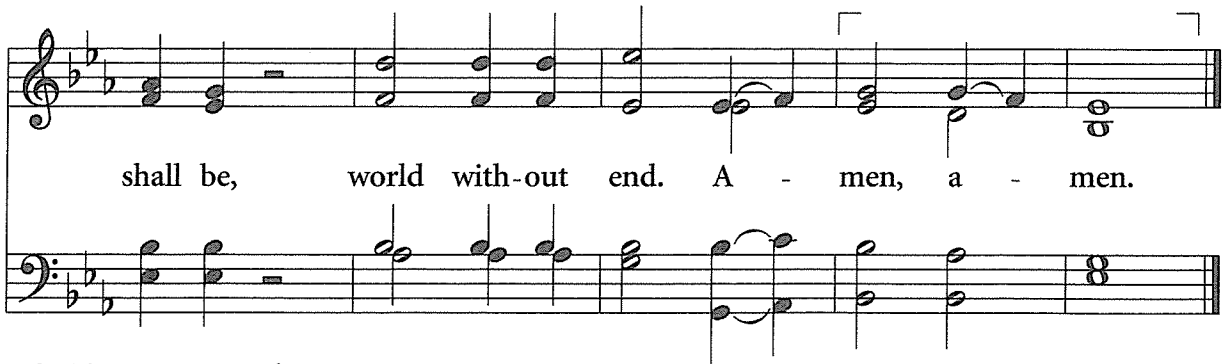
# Glory Be to the Father



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly



Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er



shall be, world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

WORDS: Anonymous, 4th cent.  
MUSIC: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex)  
Irregular

## Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

1. Je - sus, the ver - y thought of Thee  
 2. No voice can sing, no heart can frame,  
 3. O hope of ev - ery con - trite heart!  
 4. But what to those who find? Ah! this,

with sweet - ness fills my breast; but sweet - er far Thy  
 nor can the mem - ory find a sweet - er sound than  
 O joy of all the meek! To those who fall, how  
 no tongue or pen can show the love of Je - sus,

face to see, and in Thy pres - ence rest.  
 Je - sus' name, Sav - ior of hu - man - kind!  
 kind Thou art! How good to those who seek!  
 what it is none but His loved ones know.



## Have Thine Own Way, Lord

1. Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Thou art the  
 2. Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Search me and  
 3. Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Wound-ed and  
 4. Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Hold o'er my

pot - ter, I am the clay! Mold me and make me af - ter Thy  
 try me, Mas - ter, to - day! Whit - er than snow, Lord, wash me just  
 wea - ry, help me, I pray! Pow - er, all pow - er sure - ly is  
 be - ing ab - so - lute sway! Fill with Thy Spir - it till all shall

will, while I am wait - ing, yield - ed and still.  
 now, as in Thy pres - ence hum - bly I bow.  
 Thine! Touch me and heal me, Sav - ior di - vine.  
 see Christ on - ly, al - ways, liv - ing in me.